

Press Release
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**Governments of the United States and Bolivia
presented an agreement to fight corruption**

The Bolivian government officially announced today it would receive support from the U.S. government to fight corruption. The U.S. government Agency for International Development (USAID) will provide US\$ 7.9 million dollars during the next five years to the Presidential Delegate Against Corruption for tasks designed to prevent and fight corruption.

Not only will this program promote the strengthening of Bolivian institutions in charge of combating corruption, but it also will assign essential duties to the citizens themselves so that they assume an active role in the construction of a transparent government.

One main objective of the program is to support the Bolivian government's efforts to eliminate impunity, increase transparency and strengthen public accountability. The office of the Anti-corruption Presidential Delegate and its related agencies are in charge of investigating, administering justice and exercising government control. This government agency seeks to eliminate impunity and increase public transparency and responsibility.

This U.S.-supported program has three essential components: 1) Compliance of the law, in order to increase the institutional ability to efficiently investigate, prosecute and sentence corruption cases, while respecting constitutional guarantees and human rights. 2) Social control exercised by the civil society to support the government's effort of establishing strategic alliances with civil society's organizations that prevent and fight corruption. 3) Leadership and institutional strengthening, which will be oriented to reinforce the institutional capabilities of the government's anti-corruption agency.

This program will be administered by "Casals & Associates", an American contractor company with considerable experience in the areas of governance, transparency, and corruption.